

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O R 221807Z AUG 75 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9569
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 7498

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, ESTC, CU, US
SUBJECT: THIRD COUNTRY RESTRICTIONS AGAINST TRADE WITH CUBA

REF: STATE 197983

1. I TOLD SOSA ACTING SECRETARY, SECRETARIAT
FOREIGN RELATIONS) OF THIRD COUNTRY CHANGES WITHOUT GOING
INTO FULL DETAIL. STRESSED THAT THIS WAS PART OF UNRAVELLING
OF REGULATORY KNOTS, THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE SLOW--A
PIECE AT A TIME-- BUT THAT A BEGINNING HAD BEEN MADE.
GONZALEZ SOSA WAS GENUINELY IMPRESSED AND SAID HE WOULD
REPORT TO RABASA AND PRESIDENT. TOLD HIM ALSO THAT WE
WERE GIVING MORE DETAILS TO BECKER (SECRETARIAT
INDUSTRY COMMERCE) AND SAID THAT THIS WAS NOT RELATED
TO BILATERAL TALKS WITH CUBA BUT WAS INTENDED TO CARRY
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OUT SPIRIT OF SAN JOSE.

2. E/C COUNSELOR INFORMED BECKER AND DIAS THOME (FOREIGN RELATIONS) ALONG SIMILAR LINES. BOTH RESPONDED THAT THIS WAS MOST WELCOME NEWS AND ASKED FOR FURTHER DETAILS WHEN AVAILABLE.

3. MODIFICATIONS IN U.S. POLICIES HAVE RECEIVED LOCAL RADIO AND PRESS PLAY. MEMBERS EXECUTIVE BOARD AMERICAN CHAMBER QUESTIONED E/C COUNSELOR EXTENSIVELY YESTERDAY. THEIR QUESTIONS EMPHASIZED THAT PRINCIPAL PROBLEM REMAINS RESTRICTIONS ON U.S. COMPONENTS. FEW U.S. FIRMS HERE MANUFACTURE ENTIRELY FROM MEXICAN SOURCES. FOR EXAMPLE, AS WAS BROUGHT OUT DURING PREVIOUS EFFORTS TO SHIP U.S. MODEL CARS TO HAVANA TRADE FAIR IN MARCH, ALL U.S. MODEL CARS MADE HERE HAVE SUBSTANTIAL SHARE U.S. COMPONENTS. U.S. CONGRESSMEN, AS WELL AS GOM OFFICIALS, WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION AS TO POLICY IN NEAR FUTURE WITH RESPECT TO LICENSING GOODS FOR SALE TO CUBA WITH U.S. COMPONENTS. GENERAL ELECTRIC REPRESENTATIVES ASKED IF 1 PERCENT U.S. COMPONENTS STILL EXCLUDED SALES HIS LOCAL COMPANY TO CUBA.

4. COMMENT: THERE IS MUCH INTEREST HERE IN MOVING AHEAD RAPIDLY AND I WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FUTHER GUIDEANCE DEPT. IS ABLE TO PROVIDE.
JOVA

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